

In the Claims

1. (cancelled)

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

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19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A device for collecting nasal secretions which comprises a sealable container into which a patient may blow their nose, or into which a child's nose may be wiped or squeezed to obtain nasal secretion, wherein said container is designed to fit snugly about the patient's nose such that, upon blowing nasal secretions into the container, the nasal secretions are deposited onto a bottom aspect of the container and wherein said container comprises a series of holes disposed so as to permit air blown into said container to escape, without at the same time permitting said nasal secretion to escape.

22. (original) The device according to claim 21 wherein said container comprises a means for sealing said series of holes to prevent nasal secretion from oozing from said container.

23. (original) The device according to claim 22 wherein said container comprises a means for associating a particular nasal secretion sample with a particular patient.

24. (currently amended) The device according to claim 21 wherein said sealable container is sealed by means of a reversibly sealable zip-lock strip.

25. (original) The device according to claim 21 wherein said sealable container further comprises a pre-crimped patient label disposed so as to be folded over with an adhesive strip to ensure retention of nasal secretions within said container.

26. (original) The device according to claim 21 wherein said device is colored or opaque.

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27. (original) The device according to claim 26 wherein said device may be made translucent or colorless by peeling a colored or opaque coating from the exterior of said collection device.

28. (original) The device according to claim 21 wherein said device is manufactured or distributed as a releasably joined plurality of said collection devices.

29. (cancelled)

30. (cancelled)

31. (cancelled)

32. (new) The device according to claim 21, wherein said series of holes are positioned above where the nasal secretions are deposited.